CHINESE BOOST

Language and expression Chinese vocabulary: Intermediate (HSK 4-6)

40 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 34 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

Language and expression Chinese vocabulary: Intermediate (HSK 4-6) on the web
The same words as a CSV, for Anki or a spreadsheet
A free account, which keeps 简体 or 繁體, pinyin or 注音 and the rest of how you read Chinese on every device

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Words

语法 語法
yǔfǎ grammar / syntax

> 语法是很复杂的。
> Yǔfǎ shì hěn fùzá de.
> Grammar is a very complex thing.

翻译 翻譯
fānyì to translate / to interpret / translation / interpretation / translator / interpreter

> 我是个翻译。
> Wǒ shì gè fānyì.
> I'm a translator.

普通话 普通話
pǔtōnghuà Putonghua / standard Mandarin

> 你会讲普通话吗?
> Nǐ huì jiǎng pǔtōnghuà ma?
> Can you speak Mandarin?

口语 口語
kǒuyǔ colloquial speech / spoken language / vernacular language / slander / gossip

> 你想怎么练习英语口语?
> Nǐ xiǎng zěnme liànxí Yīngyǔ kǒuyǔ?
> How do you want to practice spoken English?

词语 詞語
cíyǔ word (general term including monosyllables through to short phrases) / term (e.g. technical term) / expression

> 这个词语是什么意思?
> Zhège cíyǔ shì shénme yìsi?
> What does this word mean?

文字
wénzì character / script / writing / written language / writing style / phraseology

> 这是个文字游戏。
> Zhè shì gè wénzì yóuxì.
> This is a pun.

正式
zhèngshì formal / official

> 他给了我正式批准。
> Tā gěi le wǒ zhèngshì pīzhǔn.
> He gave me his stamp of approval.

随便 隨便
suíbiàn as one wishes / as one pleases / negligent / wanton / at random / casual

> 请随便问问题。
> Qǐng suíbiàn wèn wèntí.
> Please feel free to ask me questions.

礼貌 禮貌
lǐmào courteous / polite / courtesy / politeness / manners

> 你不讲礼貌。
> Nǐ bù jiǎng lǐmào.
> You have no manners.

文章
wénzhāng article / essay / literary works / writings / hidden meaning

> 你看文章了没?
> Nǐ kàn wénzhāng le méi?
> You read the paper?

流利
liúlì fluent

> 他的英语多流利啊!
> Tā de Yīngyǔ duō liúlì a!
> His English is very fluent!

发音 發音
fāyīn pronunciation / to pronounce / to emit sound

> 这个字很难发音。
> Zhège zì hěn nán fāyīn.
> This word is difficult to pronounce.

拼音
pīnyīn phonetic writing / pinyin (Chinese romanization)

> 你会用拼音打字吗?
> Nǐ huì yòng pīnyīn dǎzì ma?
> Can you type using pinyin?

表达 表達
biǎodá to express / to convey

> 你想表达什么?
> Nǐ xiǎng biǎodá shénme?
> What do you mean?

语气 語氣
yǔqì tone / manner of speaking / mood
> 他说话的语气好像是在害怕什么。
> Tā shuōhuà de yǔqì hǎoxiàng shì zài hàipà shénme.
> He speaks as though he were afraid of something.

词汇 詞彙
cíhuì vocabulary / list of words (e.g. for language teaching purposes) / word
> 多读书能增加你的词汇。
> Duō dúshū néng zēngjiā nǐ de cíhuì.
> Reading more can build up your vocabulary.

语音 語音
yǔyīn speech sounds / pronunciation / colloquial (rather than literary) pronunciation of a Chinese character / phonetic / audio / voice / to voice chat / voice message
> 这位老师的语音很标准。
> Zhèwèi lǎoshī de yǔyīn hěn biāozhǔn.
> This teacher's pronunciation is very standard.

语文 語文
yǔwén literature and language / Chinese (as a school subject)
> 语文老师讲课很有意思。
> Yǔwén lǎoshī jiǎngkè hěn yǒuyìsi.
> The Chinese teacher's lessons are very interesting.

书法 書法
shūfǎ calligraphy / handwriting / penmanship
> 你擅长书法吗?
> Nǐ shàncháng shūfǎ ma?
> Are you good at calligraphy?

量词 量詞
liàngcí classifier (in Chinese grammar) / measure word
> 中文的量词很难记。
> Zhōngwén de liàngcí hěn nánjì.
> Chinese classifiers are hard to remember.

写作 寫作
xiězuò writing / written works / to write / to compose
> 他不喜欢写作。
> Tā bù xǐhuan xiězuò.
> He doesn't like writing.

字母
zìmǔ letter (of the alphabet)
> 选择一个字母。
> Xuǎnzé yí gè zìmǔ.
> Pick a letter.

演讲 演講
yǎnjiǎng to give a lecture / to make a speech
> 他的演讲让我很无聊。
> Tā de yǎnjiǎng ràng wǒ hěn wúliáo.
> I was bored with his speech.

草稿
cǎogǎo draft / outline / sketch

读音 讀音
dúyīn pronunciation / literary (rather than colloquial) pronunciation of a Chinese character
> 老师，这个词的读音是什么?
> Lǎoshī, zhège cí de dúyīn shì shénme?
> Teacher, what is the pronunciation of this word?

逗号 逗號
dòuhào comma (punct.)
> 这里应该加一个逗号。
> Zhèlǐ yīnggāi jiā yí gè dòuhào.
> You should add a comma here.

引号 引號
yǐnhào quotation mark (punct.)
> 别忘了给这句话加上引号。
> Bié wàngle gěi zhè jù huà jiāshàng yǐnhào.
> Don't forget to put quotation marks around this sentence.

冒号 冒號
màohào colon (punct.)
> 冒号后面的内容是什么意思?
> Màohào hòumian de nèiróng shì shénme yìsi?
> What does the part after the colon mean?

方言
fāngyán topolect / dialect / the first Chinese dialect dictionary, edited by Yang Xiong 揚雄|扬雄[Yang2 Xiong2] in 1st century, containing over 9000 characters
> 我对方言很感兴趣。
> Wǒ duì fāngyán hěn gǎnxìngqù.
> I'm very interested in dialects.

声调 聲調
shēngdiào tone / note / a tone (on a Chinese syllable)
> 她声调突然变了。
> Tā shēngdiào tūrán biànle.
> There was a sudden change in her tone.

母语 母語
mǔyǔ native language / mother tongue / parent language
> 你的母语是什么?
> Nǐ de mǔyǔ shì shénme?
> What is your mother tongue?

书写 書寫
shūxiě to write
> 请用黑笔书写，不要用铅笔。
> Qǐng yòng hēi bǐ shūxiě, búyào yòng qiānbǐ.
> Please write in black pen, not pencil.

措辞 措辭
cuòcí wording / way of expressing something / turn of phrase / diction

书面 書面
shūmiàn in writing / written
> 你们的约定最好写成书面的。
> Nǐmen de yuēdìng zuìhǎo xiě chéng shūmiàn de.
> It would be best to put your agreement in writing.

口头 口頭

kǒutóu oral / verbal

> 明天的英语考试有口头部分。
> Míngtiān de Yīngyǔ kǎoshì yǒu kǒutóu bùfen.
> Tomorrow's English exam has an oral part.

校对 校對

jiàoduì proofreader / to proofread / to calibrate

同义 同義

tóngyì synonymous

分号 分號

fēnhào semicolon / branch (of a business, shop etc)

反义 反義

fǎnyì antonymous / antisense

破折号 破折號

pòzhéhào dash / Chinese dash —— (punct., double the length of the western dash)

> 你为什么在这里用破折号?
> Nǐ wèishénme zài zhèlǐ yòng pòzhéhào?
> Why did you use a dash here?